

Heraldic Art Medals

Presentation



Stephen Petty - CONA
March 16, 2016

Heraldic Art Medals

Overview of Presentation

- Why my Interest?
- Medals – When
- Medals – How Many
- Who Was Robert T. McNamara?
- Where/How were they Made?



Heraldic Art Medals

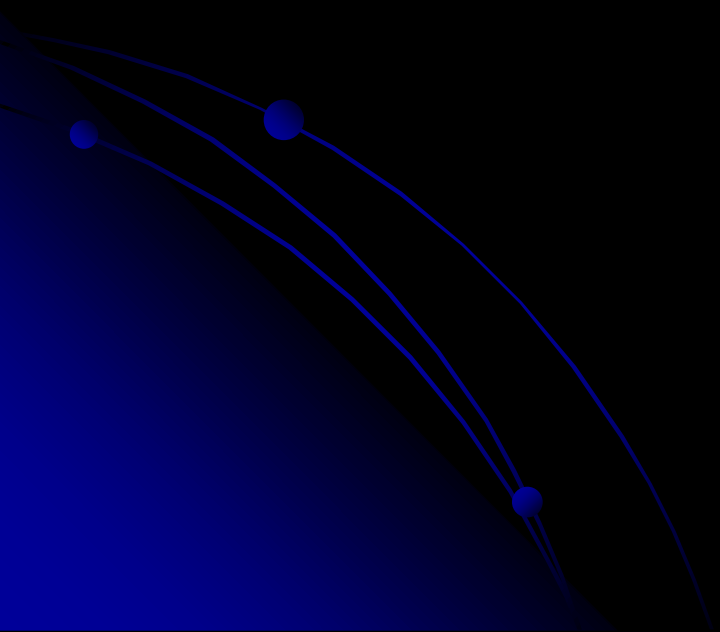
Why My Interest

- Picked up about a dozen (of the more common) Heraldic Art Medals at a 2015 Don Grace auction for ~2x melt.
- Was impressed by the artistry of the medals and the fact he was from Ohio – Cleveland – and produced these metals (3+/yr.) for 20 years.
- Plus, I had never heard of Robert T. McNamara and wanted to know more.

Heraldic Art Medals

Robert T. McNamara - Creator

- Very little known about Robert T. McNamara
- Most of what we know is from Gino Sanfilippo's TAMs paper from February 1997.



SO CALLED HALF DOLLARS

by Gino Sanfilippo

Ever since I first became aware of the medallion struck for the fiftieth anniversary of the Western Reserve Numismatic Club (W.R.N.C.) I decided to try and find out more about it. Learning that it was struck by the Heraldic Art Company of Cleveland, Ohio, I started seeking out some of the company's other works. I then found my first commemorative medallion. Over the last five years I have been collecting not only the medallions, but information on this beautiful series produced by the Heraldic Art Company.

With the recent passing of Bob McNamara, I feel now is the time to write a much needed and long overdue article on these medallions. Much of my information was supplied by Bob before his passing. I have also recently had communications with Mrs. McNamara, who has most graciously helped in adding information.

With no formal training, Bob designed all the artwork and sculpted all but a few of the medallions himself (the only piece I'm sure he didn't sculpt is the Eisenhower "occasional piece," which is the work of Paul Vincze). He was meticulous in detail as well as in his research into the historical events depicted by his medallions. His idea was to create a continuation of commemorative half dollar size medallions similar to the United States commemorative coin series, which had ended in 1952. In 1961 the American Numismatic Association bestowed upon Bob the prestigious Edward T. Newall award. His most famous work to date is the 1971 W.R.N.C. counterstamp on 1936 Great Lakes Commemorative Half Dollars. This counterstamp, created for the fiftieth anniversary of the W.R.N.C., featured Moses Cleaveland. Only 25 pieces were struck.

Being a private mint, Bob also struck many tokens and medals for businesses and organizations. At one time there were three different presses being used. All of the "so called half dollars" were struck on a 1940s vintage converted hydraulic press which he purchased from Germany. It was a double arm, 150 ton swing screw press. This main press was recently sold to the Gallery Mint of Arkansas. It has been completely reconditioned and is again being used to strike more beautiful collectors' items.

All medallion planchets were supplied by Handy & Harmon and were half dollar diameter. They differed only in thickness. All pieces were struck in sterling silver and the first seven regular issues were also struck in 22 karat gold. Gold issues weighed 25.2 grams (389

grains). I have also owned an American Bicentennial medallion struck over a South African Kruggerand; the undertype could clearly be seen. I was told there were a total of three test pieces struck.

There were sixty regular issue medallions released over twenty years. They were issued three per year. Also struck were seven "occasional pieces." Each of these depicted a special event in its year of occurrence. They were sold by direct mail sale only, with no bulk sales to exceed ten pieces. All dies have since been defaced.

The initial price was \$2.95 each; this changed to \$3.25 in 1960, \$3.50 in 1963, \$3.95 in 1968, \$4.25 in 1973, \$5.50 in 1974, and \$6.25 in 1978. All prices included postage. At this time I have no information on the price of the gold issues.

All regular issues were released in individual numbered envelopes along with a descriptive insert of each medallion's significance. The envelopes for the occasional pieces were also numbered except for the last issue, and no inserts were included. All envelopes were supplied by Old Colony Envelope Company, of Westfield, Massachusetts.

There doesn't seem to be any pattern for the distributed numbered envelopes. After Bob's death I was able to purchase a large quantity of empty envelopes and inserts. In checking the numbering, I found they run mostly from 1,000 to 2,000. Some went as low as 200 and others as high as 5,000. One grouping ran in the single digits; another was numbered over 6,000. As I understand no single medallion was ever produced in this quantity, I feel this could have been an overrun by the printers or anticipation of larger production by Bob. I also have a group of printed, but not numbered, envelopes. I surmise they were to be numbered as needed.

Information supplied to me indicates that the estate incinerated two full van-loads of the printed material. Unless new information becomes available, I don't think we will ever have accurate mintage figures on the sterling issues.

By my observations I feel there were more struck of the first three regular issues than any others. Oddly enough, the first two issues command the highest prices when offered. I'm sure this is because of the subject matter and also because of their inclusion in recently published token and medal books on the respective states.

MEDALLION NUMBER AND TOPIC		YEAR ISSUED	MAXIMUM MINTAGE	MAXIMUM THICKNESS	GOLD ISSUES
01	Alaska Statehood	1959	5,000	all thin	24
02	Hawaii Statehood	1959	4,600	thin	36
	Hawaii Statehood	1959	1,200	thick	
03	St. Lawrence Seaway	1959	3,700	thin	48
	St. Lawrence Seaway	1959	2,200	thick	
04	Pony Express	1960	6,000		48
05	Boy Scouts	1960	7,500		50
06	Pioneer Inventions	1960	6,100		48
07	Kansas Statehood	1961	6,100		48
08	Civil War Centennial	1961	7,700		
09	Tippecanoe	1961	6,300		
10	Louisiana Statehood	1962	6,300		
11	U.S.S. Constitution	1962	6,100		
12	Girl Scouts	1962	6,400		
13	West Virginia Statehood	1963	6,000		
14	Battle of Lake Erie	1963	6,000		
15	New Jersey Tercentenary	1963	6,000		
16	Nevada Centennial	1964	6,000		
17	Founding of St. Louis	1964	6,000		
18	Pocahontas - Rolfe	1964	6,000		
19	St. Augustine	1965	6,000		
20	Appomattox	1965	6,000		
21	Eli Whitney	1965	6,000		
22	Indiana Statehood	1966	6,000		
23	Great Eastern	1966	6,000		
24	Winfield Scott	1966	6,000		
25	Nebraska Statehood	1967	6,000		
26	Kosciuszko	1967	6,000		
27	Mississippi Statehood	1967	6,000		
28	New Orleans	1968	6,000		
29	Benjamin Sillman	1968	6,000		
30	Illinois Statehood	1968	6,000		
31	San Diego	1969	6,000		
32	John Wesley Powell	1969	6,000		
33	Transcontinental Railroad	1969	6,000		
34	Charleston, S. C.	1970	6,000		
35	Nathan B. Palmer	1970	6,000		
36	Stephen Decatur	1970	6,000		
37	Santa Fe Trail	1971	6,000		
38	Jimmy Doolittle	1971	6,000		
39	First Thanksgiving	1971	6,000		
40	Yellowstone Park	1972	6,000		
41	Florida Territory	1972	6,000		
42	League of Six Nations	1972	6,000		
43	Marquette - Joliet	1973	6,000		
44	Monroe Doctrine	1973	6,000		
45	1773	1973	6,000		
46	New Netherlands	1974	6,000		
47	Steel Century	1974	6,000		
48	1774	1974	6,000		
49	Erie Canal	1975	6,000		
50	Luther Burbank	1975	6,000		

MEDALLION NUMBER AND TOPIC		YEAR ISSUED	MAXIMUM MINTAGE	MAXIMUM THICKNESS	GOLD ISSUES
51	1775	1975	6,000		
52	California Expedition	1976	6,000		
53	Colorado Statehood	1976	6,000		
54	1776	1976	6,000		
55	Vermont Statehood	1977	6,000		
56	Flag Day	1977	6,000		
57	1777	1977	6,000		
58	LaSalle	1978	6,000		
59	Edison	1978	6,000		
60	1778	1978	6,000		

OCCASIONAL PIECES

Dag Hammarskjöld	1961	5,000	thick	?
John Glenn - Mercury Telstar	1962	3,500	thick	?
John F. Kennedy	1963	5,300	thick	?
Herbert Hoover	1964	5,300	thick	?
Adlai Stevenson	1965	5,300	thick	?
Dwight Eisenhower	1966	5,300	thick	?
American Bicentennial	1976	5,300	thick	?

The only variation is in the planchet thickness for the first year of issue. #1 Alaska Statehood were all struck on thin planchets. #2 Hawaii Statehood and #3 St. Lawrence Seaway were struck on both thin and thick planchets. All thins were struck before April, 1960, when production was suspended temporarily because of litigation. The thin issues may have been in violation of the United States government's "Slug Statute." The government forced the use of a thicker planchet so as not to be used in vending machines. All regular issues have milled edges and all occasional pieces have plain edges.

Originally the weight was 192 grains; this was changed to 262 grains, with all remaining thin planchets and struck medallions to be scrapped. The diameter remained the same.

My suspicions that no medallions were struck at the maximum figures were recently confirmed by Mrs. McNamara in a phone conversation. So far, no records have been found to place exact mintages on any of the silver issues.

In my quest I have found it very difficult to assemble a complete set. The medallions issued from 1968 and later seem to be more difficult to locate. I'm sure between the long issuing period and rising costs, latter issues were not struck in the same quantities as early issues.

In making this information available I hope I have

helped my fellow collectors with some history and details on the origin of this series. Bob may be gone but I feel we have not yet seen the full impact of the series. Anyone having or seeking additional information may write me at 8910 Brecksville Rd., Brecksville, OH 44141.

WEEK-LONG COURSE IN U.S. TOKENS OFFERED BY A.N.A.

A comprehensive week-long course in United States tokens is being offered by the American Numismatic Association at its Summer Conference, 12-18 July 1997, on the campus of Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado. This is the third time the course has been presented.

Taught by *TAMS Journal* editor David E. Schenkman, the course opens the door to a fascinating and multifaceted field of numismatics. Participants will discover why token collecting has reached new heights of popularity in recent years, as a wide range of subjects are addressed in depth. Some of the specific topics include Civil War tokens, the "Hard Times" series, merchant counterstamps, embossed "shell" cards, token errors, counterfeits and fantasies, transportation tokens, coal and other "system" scrip, advertising and trade tokens, token manufacturers, and nineteenth century merchant tokens.

(concluded on page 31)

Mr. Sanfilippo owns the A B C Art & Coin Exchange, Brecksville, OH.

He knew Mr. McNamara

He has assisted me in nearly completing the silver set – missing two.

Heraldic Art Medals

Overview – Who and What

- Robert T. McNamara
- In 1959, Robert began the issuance of commemorative medals, the size and weight of our half-dollar with reeded edges and a weight (192 grains) but a higher fineness (.925 silver as opposed to .900 fine), to replicate as close as possible, the U.S. half-dollar.

Medal Number 6 -- Pioneer Inventions



Medal Number 7 -- Kansas Statehood



Medal Number 8 -- Civil War Centennial



Heraldic Art Medals

Overview – Who and What Cont.

- The U.S. treasury was alerted to this effort and informed him that he would have to make some change to his medals so that they would not pass as half dollars in machines. His answer was to add 70 extra grains to each medal.
- He proceeded to strike three different medals each year and continued the program through 1978, making 60 different medals over the 20-year period.

Medal Number 9 -- Tippecanoe



Medal Number 17 -- Founding of St. Louis



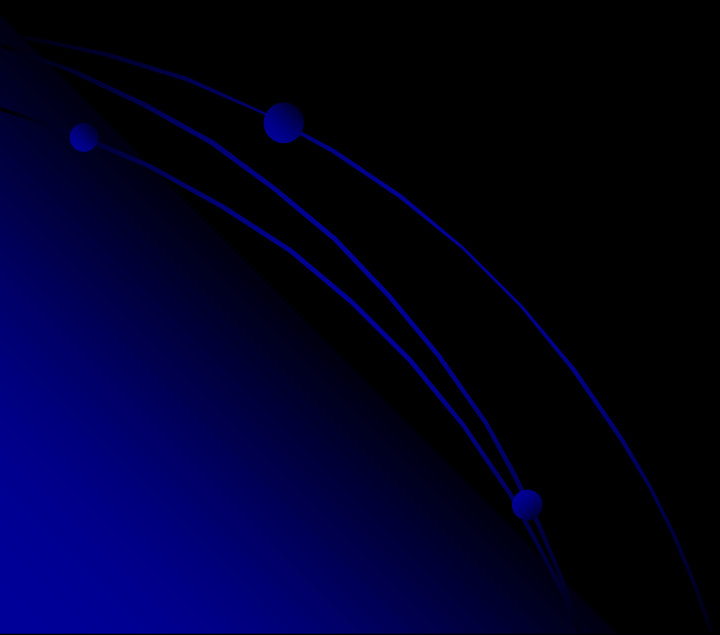
Medal Number 31 -- Bicentennial of San Diego



Heraldic Art Medals

Overview – Who and What Cont.

- According to Mr. Sanfilippo, he also made seven (7) different occasional medals; club/commemorative medals and seven (7) gold medals.



Heraldic Art Medals

But I Wanted to Know More – Who Was Robert T. McNamara and Why Did he Make These Medals for Over 20 Years?

- I search the internet for days; nothing about him; could not even find his obituary even though I knew it was published in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on November 22, 1995
(B: B: 2/17/1919 D: 11/19/1995).
- Finally found out he was married to Genevieve L. McNamara – located a name in MD. – 92 years young.

Robert T. McNamara

Who Was He and Why?

- I called Ms. Genevieve L. McNamara; she was kind enough to answer and told me yes, she was his wife. She allowed me to interview her!
- At the end of the interview, she took my contact information and told me her son might call me.
- Her son, David King McNamara called me later that day; we spoke for nearly two hours.

Robert T. McNamara

Who Was He and Why?

- David, a young 68, not only spoke with me for more than two hours, but we corresponded over the next three days and he provided me with heretofore unknown papers and photographs.

I was quite grateful for both of their time and told them I wanted to tell this story of an Ohio man dedicated to the design and fabrication of silver and gold medals for >20 years from his home and an out-building in a nearby industrial park.

Robert T. McNamara

His Passions

- His dad always told David that he liked to inform people of engineering and history through art. His passion was to combine his interests in engineering with the arts. Thus, his life's work focused on this combination of interests and passions.
- His dad was always interested in mechanical things, printing, and artistic stuff. He was a very good artist.

Robert T. McNamara

His Early Life

- Robert T. McNamara was born in East Cleveland, OH on February 17, 1919.
- He always like printing and working with printing presses; did so in high school and in college.
- He attended and graduated from Yale University; graduating in Mechanical Engineering in 1941.

Apparently he printed a menu for a school event and the English instructor was so impressed, he wanted the young Mr. McNamara to go to school in English. Needing money, he went to work instead.

Robert T. McNamara

His Wife

- Genevieve met him in 1942 at a party thrown by her aunt.
- She grew up on a farm in Bucks County, PA outside of Philadelphia, but was working as a shipping clerk in Philadelphia when she met him at a party.
- They were married on May 16, 1942.

Robert T. McNamara

His Work History

Early to mid 1940s: David is pretty sure that his Dad worked as an Engineer at the Remington Gun Works in Pa. from ~1941 until about the end of the war (late 1940s). This is consistent with early production dates of M-1 – started in 1937 (<http://usriflecal30m1.com/ProductionGraph.aspx>).

His job was apparently associated with propellant for the bullets in the clips for the M-1 rifle.

David recalled that he had several clips at home as mementos from that period.

Robert T. McNamara

His Work History – cont.

Late 1940s to early 1950s: Moved back to East Cleveland, Ohio, where he went to work for Hill & Knowlton writing promotional literature for engineering company products.

David specifically recalls him writing literature for the Warner & Swasey Gradall road machine.

He did not like working for others and decided he would rather be his own boss, so he left this firm in the early 1950s.

Robert T. McNamara

His Work History – cont.

Early 1950s to ~1960: Self-employed (sole proprietor of one) at first developing promotional literature for engineering company products from his office on the 22nd floor of the Terminal Tower building.

As part of this consulting business he began to branch out into other areas.

Robert T. McNamara

His Work History – cont.

For example, to print promotional materials, he purchased a single color German printing press and located it in his basement where he would print materials.

His son recalls helping him print jobs by setting type and cleaning the press. Thus, back to his interest in printing.

As part of this, he created a company called “Art Memorial Register” that printed Coat of Arms for clients.

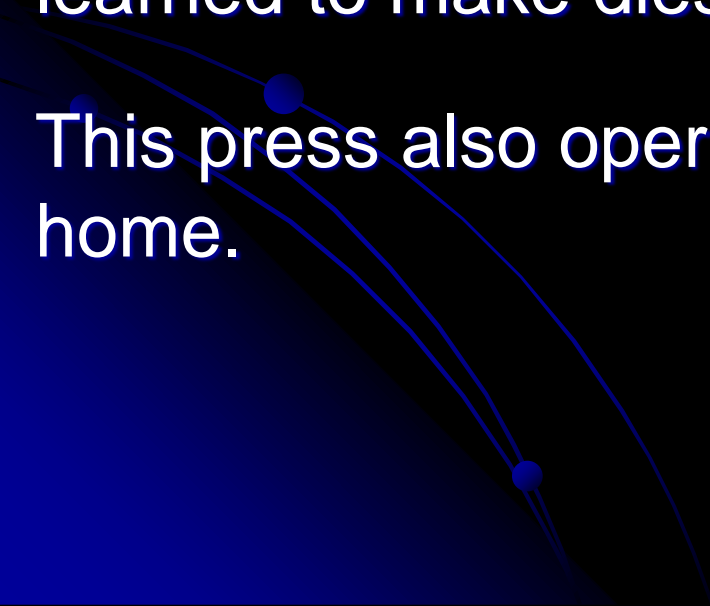
Robert T. McNamara

His Work History – cont.

In another side business, he began to custom engrave and emboss matchbooks.

To do this, he purchased a small engraving press and learned to make dies.

This press also operated out of the basement of his home.



Robert T. McNamara

His Work History – His Home in East Cleveland



Where it Began: 12918 Forrest Hills Avenue, East Cleveland, OH

Robert T. McNamara

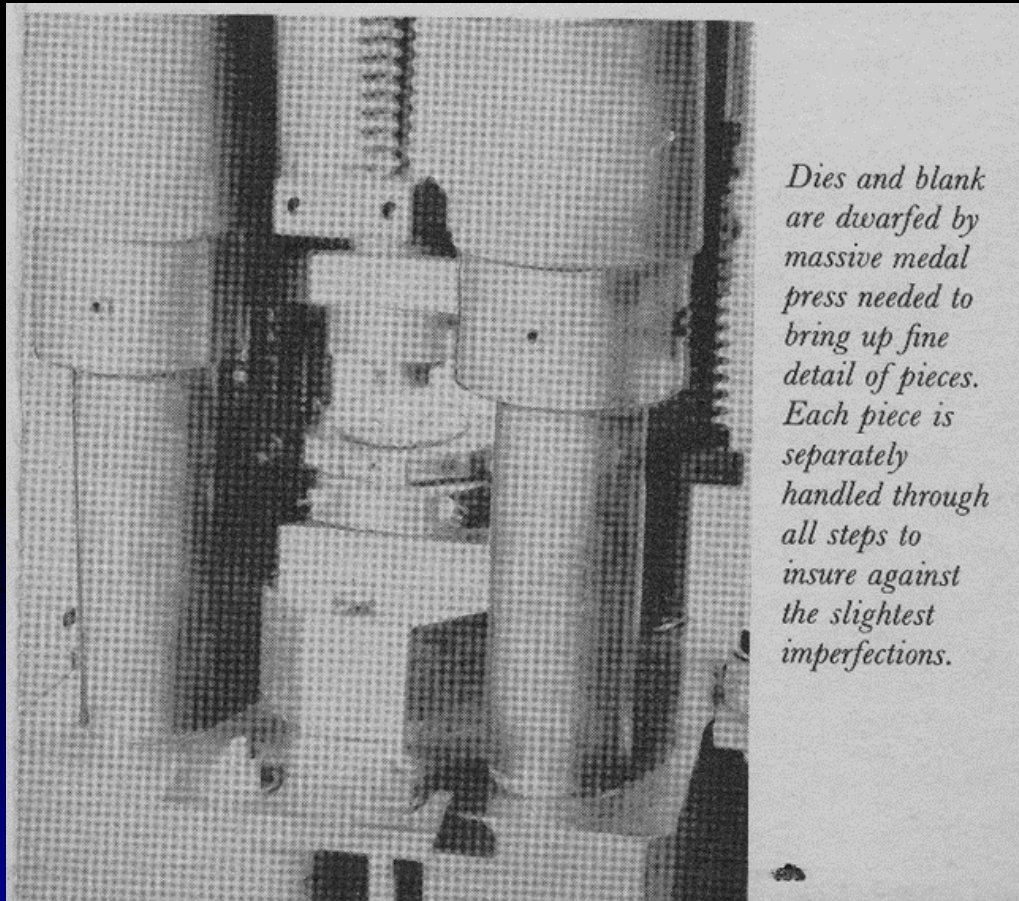
His Work History – cont.

Next he designed and had a neighbor (machinist) fabricate a small coining press. This too operated out of the basement of his home.

His first product was imitation silver coins from the colonial era (e.g. shillings). He made a batch and took them to the museum in Williamsburg, VA to sell them and offer to make more products. They told him they already had a supplier and had no interest. He learned not to make products without a customer from this experience.

Robert T. McNamara

His Work History – The First Coin Press



Now he had a coin
press, what to do
with it – Heraldic Art
Medals!

Where it Began: First Coin Press in Basement;
Designed by Mr. McNamara and Built by Neighbor

Robert T. McNamara

Aside – His Collecting Interests

Collecting Interests:

- a. His first collecting interest was stamps – 1940s
- b. He then collected British Bolton medals and rosettes. He exhibited this collection at an ANA show in the early 1950s and was made a good offer for the collection so he sold it.

Robert T. McNamara

Aside – His Collecting Interests

Collecting Interests – cont.:

- C. He then began to collect Greek coins and was especially fond of those that were artistic. By 1960 he had a nice collection and was offered \$50,000 for this collection, by Dr. Vladimir Stefanelli (a coin dealer and later the first curator at the Smithsonian for numismatics). This was quite a sum at that time.

Dr. Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli, who joined the staff of the Smithsonian Institution in 1956, is credited with having made the collections for which he was responsible among the most important in the world with a focus on Greek coins.

He sold his collection to Dr. Stefanelli/Smithsonian in ~1960 because he could not compete with Europeans for the coins as they had become popular and too expensive.

Robert T. McNamara

Aside – His Collecting Interests

Collecting Interests – cont.:

- d. While with his son at a Houston, TX coin show in 1962, his son saw and bought some orders/medals. His dad became very interested in these and collected them for the next ~20 years. He became so interested that he ultimately became President of the Orders and Medals Society of America from 1972-1974 (listed as James T. McNamara on their webpage - <http://www.omsa.org/history-omsa/>). He sold some of this collection and his son (David) has part of the collection.
- e. Near the end of his life, he began to collect stamps again. As was his artistic demeanor, if he had two stamps of different colors, he would then try to find stamps that would fill in the chromatic spectrum between the two.

David said his father never lost his collecting spirit!

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Process

The process of producing a medal consisted of the following steps:

- Design
- Sculpture
- Engrave
- Hub
- Die
- Add Letters to Die (by etching at first – why letters on early metals flatter – latter integral to die)
- Heat Treat Die
- Press Medals.

As time progressed, he took on more and more of these tasks limiting use of outside contractors

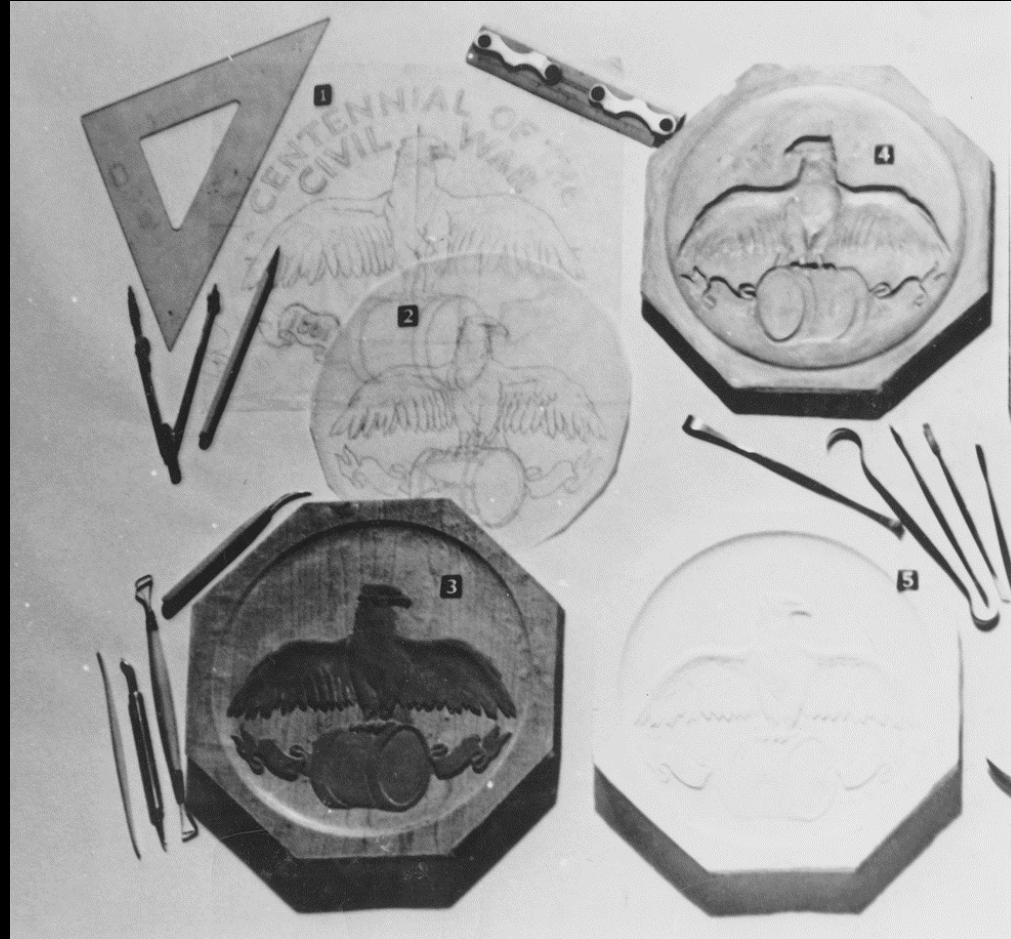


Figure 1. Initial Steps of Design and Modeling Process (Design, Sculpture & Engrave)

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals - Process

8. Engraving the hub.

9. Die production

10 & 11. Lettering design &
Templates

12, 13, & 14. Blank Production,
Cleaning, and Upsetting

15. Stamping

16. Packaging & Shipment

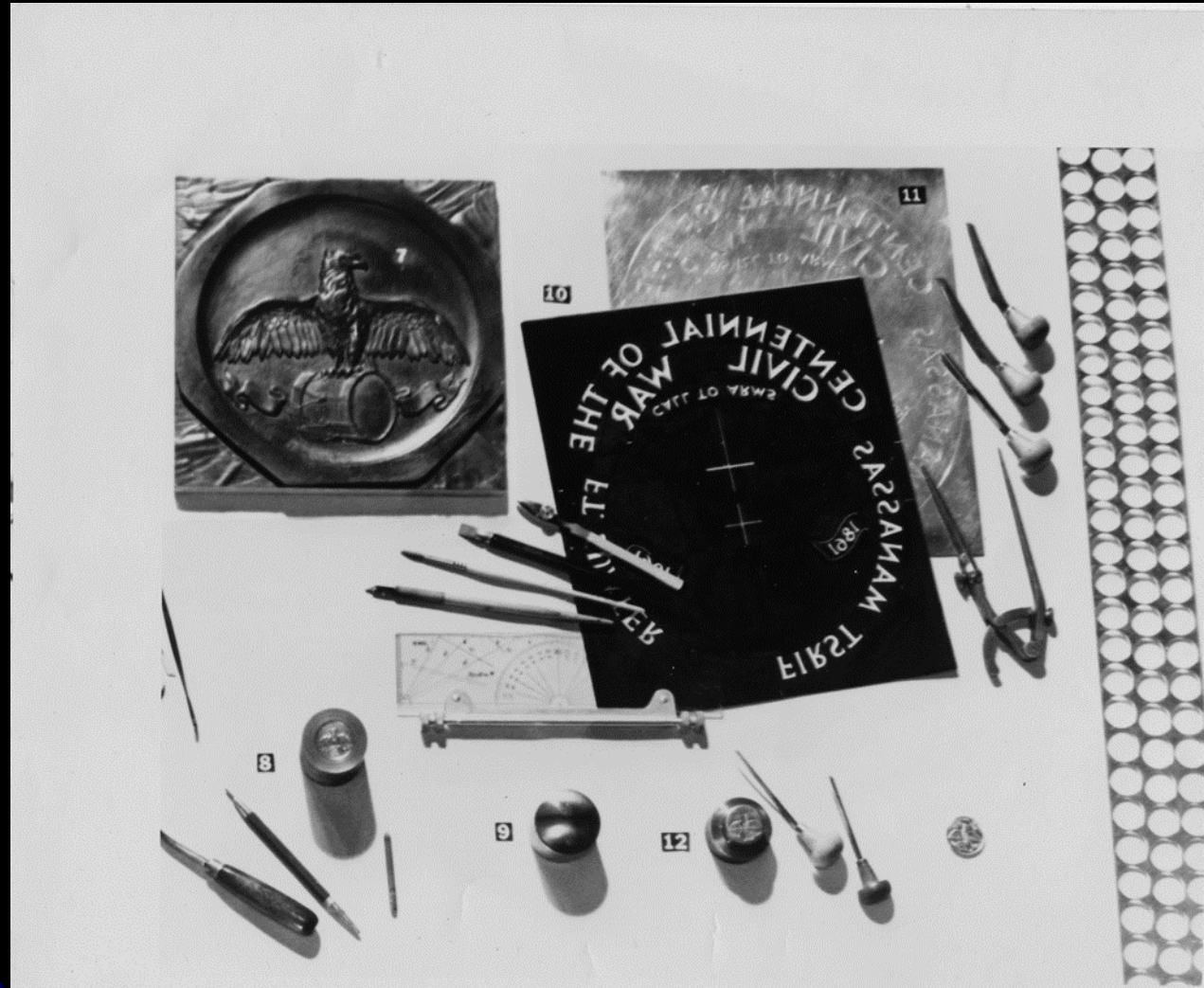


Figure 2. Continuing steps in producing Heraldic Arts Medallions.

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Who Did What

Process Step	Series 1 through 7	Series 8 and 9	Series 10 through 33?	Series 34 through 60
Topic Selection	X	X	X	X
Preliminary Design	X	X	X	X
Final 2-D Design	X	X	X	X
3-D Clay Model	C	X	X	X
1st Plaster Cast	C	X	X	X
2nd Plaster Cast	C	X	X	X
3rd Plaster Cast	C	X		
Plastic Cast (Galvano)	C	X	X	X
3-D Engraving	C	C	C	X
Heat Treating Hub	X	X		
Pressing Die	C	C		
Heat Treating Die	X	X	X	X
Lettering Template	X	X		
Letter Engraving	X	X		
Die Polish/Finishing	X	X	X	X
Metal Blanking	C	C	C	C
Metal Cleaning	X	X	X	X
Upsetting	X	X	X	X
Stamping	X	X	X	X
Packing and Shipment	X	X	X	X

¹¹¹ Engraving machine installed and operational some time during 1970, but exact date of first operation not known

Table I. Process Steps Conducted by Mr. McNamara (in-house) and by Contractors Showing the Change in Operations as the Process Matured.

X - Operations performed (literally in most cases) in-house

C - Contracted operations performed by third parties

Blank - steps eliminated as production was streamlined

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – the 2nd Press



Coin Press being Operated by David McNamara (Second Electric Motor Driven Press (coin press) with Me (David) Sitting in the 'Driver's Seat'.

I (David) Usually Sat on the Other Side, Where I Removed and Bagged the Pieces after Striking)

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Initial Engravers

Steven Augustus Rebeck (1891- 1975)



Steven Augustus Rebeck, sculptor and medalist, was born May 19, 1891 in Cleveland, Ohio. His parents, Andrew (birthname Andro) (1861-1922) and Elizabetha (Loboda) Hrebik (1862-1902) were married February 15, 1886 in the village of their ancestors, Jakubiany, Slovakia.

Near downtown Cleveland, Andrew worked as a foundry laborer and lived with their 5 children approximately one block east of the Cuyahoga River.

Steven's mother died in 1902 when he was 11 and, with details lost to time, was eventually abandoned. By 1906 he lived at the Brotherhood House, 440 Summit St., a Cleveland shelter for Slovenians and Hungarians supported by wealthy patrons. Beginning in 1908, this organization paid tuition for his duration of education at the Cleveland School of Art. Steven studied sculpturing under Herman N. Matzen and graduated in 1912 as the first sculptor of the School. He then traveled to New York where he became a protégé of Karl Bitter.



Structural Survey Collection, Cleveland State University Archives

Sometime in the 1940's, Steven became a sole proprietor, converting a used mechanic shop into Art and Pattern Products Co., 2426 St. Clair Avenue. Using clay and plaster mediums, he focused on medals and plaques of V.I.P.'s and commissioned works. Late in life he worked out of his home.

Steven and Jane raised three boys.

Jane passed in 1933 at age 35. Steven remarried in 1935 to Grace Kearney. Steven Rebeck passed September 18, 1975 at the age of 84 and is buried at Lake View Cemetery, Cleveland Ohio with Jane and Grace nearby.

He will be remembered, however, as one of Cleveland's most distinguished sculptors.

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Initial Engravers

The 3rd (St. Lawrence) through the first Civil War medal (#8) were designed by Walter Sinz, another local well-respected engraver, Walter A. Sinz (1881–1966), an American sculptor.

Sinz best-known work was the Thompson Trophy.

Sinz was educated at the Cleveland School of Art, where he also taught from 1911 to 1952.

In addition to his bronze and medal work, he designed figures for Cowan Pottery.

After these medals, Mr. McNamara took over the designs for the rest of the medals.

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals

Types of Medals:

Silver: Desired to mimic/continue 50¢ Commemoratives – Started thin, than Treasury said no.

The thin silver medals were struck the same size as silver US halve dollars but had slightly higher weights due to the higher silver content (90% vs. 92.5%).

Normal 90% half dollar: 0.3617 troy oz. silver

Thin 92.5% Heraldic Art Medals: 0.3800 troy oz. silver

Thick 92.5% Heraldic Art Medals: 0.5067 troy oz. silver.

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals

Types of Medals:

Gold: Made and sold 1st seven in gold, then Treasury said no.... Made some for himself later. Specifications on these three different productions of gold medals as follows:

#1 to #3 Medals - 18kt (36 Alaska, 36 Hawaii, 48 St. Lawrence) 0.5625 oz. troy Au (75% gold)

#4 to #7 Medals - 22kt (48 Pony Express, 50 Boy Scouts, 48 Pioneer, 48 Kansas) 0.6875 oz. troy Au (91.67% gold)

McNamara Medals: 24 kt (2 each series 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 21, 22, 23) 0.7500 oz. troy Au (100% gold).

(Basis: Gold Kennedy Half Dollar – 24 kt., 0.75 troy oz. gold)

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Scans of 1st Brochures

Especially for

COMMEMORATIVE COLLECTORS

... a new series of silver medallions commemorating important American historical events and anniversaries.

- ★ Fine medallic sculpture in the tradition of the U. S. commemorative half-dollar
- ★ Each piece carefully coined on a medal press
- ★ Sterling Silver (925 fine)
- ★ Exact half-dollar size and weight
- ★ Edge Milled
- ★ Strictly limited issue, serially numbered
- ★ Moderately priced, value should increase as desirable collector's item
- ★ Several issues yearly

Commemorative Medallion I

ALASKAN STATEHOOD • 1959

Issue limited to 5,000 pieces in serially numbered packets. (Future issues may be somewhat larger or smaller according to demand.)

Obverse: The state flag of Alaska (gold stars of the Big Dipper pointing to the North Star on a blue field), a simple but effective design entered by a 13-year-old orphan, Benny Berenson, in a competition some years ago. The flag flies over Mt. McKinley, the highest peak of the North American continent. Above is an arc of the Aurora Borealis, or the Northern Lights. Legend surrounding: ALASKA ADMITTED TO THE UNION • 1959.

Reverse: First medallic portrait of William H. Seward, Lincoln's secretary of state and architect of the purchase of Alaska from Russia for \$7,200,000, a transaction ridiculed in 1867 as "Seward's Folly". To the left, a great Alaskan brown bear, world's

largest carnivore, seated before a pine-bordered lake, symbolizing the new state's land resources: timber, mining, agriculture, trapping, and the more temperate southern area. To the left, a polar bear before an iceberg, symbolizing Alaska's sea resources: sealing, fisheries, and the Arctic regions. Above, the North Star Polaris, now the 49th star of the United States flag. Legend in exergue: SEWARD/1867 • ALASKA • 1959/PURCHASE • STATEHOOD.

Price: \$2⁹⁵ each, \$5³⁰ per pair. Sold direct by Heraldic Art, Box 5891, Cleveland 1, Ohio

Next Issue (No. II): HAWAIIAN STATEHOOD

Especially for

COMMEMORATIVE COLLECTORS

... a continuing series of silver medallions commemorating important American historical events and anniversaries.

- ★ Fine medallic sculpture in the tradition of the U. S. commemorative half-dollar
- ★ Each piece carefully coined on a medal press
- ★ Strictly limited issue, serially numbered

1960 PROGRAM

ISSUE	Approximate mailing period
III. ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY — COMPLETES 1959 SERIES —	Feb. 15-25 '60
IV. PONY EXPRESS CENTENNIAL	May " "
V. BOY SCOUTS 1910 - 1960	Aug. " "
VI. PIONEER INVENTIONS LONG RIFLE 1710 & CONESTOGA WAGON 1760	Nov. " "

- ★ Exact half-dollar size and weight
- ★ Sterling Silver (925 fine)
- Moderately priced: \$2.95 singly, or \$5.50 per pair of same issue, (postpaid)

Commemorative Medallion II

HAWAIIAN STATEHOOD • 1959

Issue limited to 5,800 sterling silver pieces and 36 18-karat yellow gold pieces in serially numbered packets (#0001 - 5800; #1 - 36)

Obverse: The sculptor's conception of the tranquility and appeal of the Islands pictures a singing native girl in traditional grass skirt and lei, with rolling surf in foreground and lush mountains in the distance. Framing the scene are flora representing the main elements of the Hawaiian economy: blossoming sugar cane at lower left, pineapple plant at right; above, palm branches and lei blossoms represent the importance of tourist visitations. Legend surrounding: HAWAII ADMITTED TO THE UNION • 1959.

Reverse: Hawaiian Liberty (one of the two figures which support the shield of the Hawaiian coat-of-arms ... the other is King Kamehameha I, as

shown on the Hawaii-Cook Sesquicentennial half dollar of 1928, from the statue at Honolulu) holding her Hawaiian flag, with Union Jack canton for the English discoverers and red, white and blue stripes for America. She displays a starfish, emblematic of the fiftieth star in the United States flag. In the field, the principal high, inhabited islands (from left): Niihau (73 mi.), Kauai (547), Oahu (598), Molokai (261), Lanai (139)/Maui (728), Kahoolawe (44) and Hawaii (4,016). Legend above: HAWAII/FIFTIETH STATE; below, the Hawaiian motto UA MAU KE EA O KA AINA I KA PONO, noble words of the liberal Kamehameha III, "The life of the land is perpetuated by righteousness".

Sold direct by — HERALDIC ART BOX 5891 CLEVELAND 1, OHIO

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals

Two Issues with Treasury:

1. In 1959 the FBI/Treasury came to him and said that the silver medals were too similar to 50 cent pieces and could be used in vending machines. At the time, very few vending machines could use 50 cent pieces, nevertheless, he added weight and thickness to the silver medals from that point on so they were too thick to use in vending machines.
2. They then came to him and said he could not strike gold coins because they were bullion, which could not be owned by private citizens at the time. Mr. McNamara argued they were art pieces and not bullion. Nevertheless he quit making gold medals thereafter since he could not justify the legal cost to fight the Treasury.

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Proposed Production

#	Description of Metal (all Silver Except as Noted)	Date	# Silver - Planned Mintage	# Gold - Planned Mintage	Silver Medals		
					PCGS	NGC	TOTAL
1a	Alaska Statehood	1959	5,000		0	58	58
	Alaska Statehood - Gold	1959		24			
2a	Hawaii Statehood - Thin	1959	4,600		0	47	47
2b	Hawaii Statehood - Thick	1959	1,200		0	21	21
	Hawaii Statehood - Gold	1959		36			
3a	St Lawrence Seaway - Thin	1959	3,700		0	30	30
3b	St Lawrence Seaway - Thick	1959	2,200		0	16	16
	St Lawrence Seaway - Gold	1959		48			
4	Pony Express	1960	6,000		1	59	60
	Pony Express - Gold	1960		48			
5	Boy Scouts (1910 - 1960)	1960	7,500		0	52	52
	Boy Scouts (1910 - 1960) - Gold	1960		50			
6	Pioneer Inventions	1960	6,100		0	63	63
	Pioneer Inventions - Gold	1960		48			
7	Kansas Statehood	1961	6,100		0	49	49
	Kansas Statehood - Gold	1961		48			
8	Civil War Centennial	1961	7,700		0	68	68
9	Tippecanoe	1861	6,300		0	48	48
10	Louisiana Statehood	1962	6,300		0	51	51
11	U.S.S. Constitution	1962	6,100		0	43	43
12	Girl Scouts (1912 - 1962)	1962	6,400		0	34	34
13	West Virginia Statehood	1963	6,000		0	28	28
14	Battle of Lake Erie	1963	6,000		0	30	30
15	New Jersey Tercentenary	1963	6,000		0	31	31
16	Nevada Centennial	1964	6,000		0	27	27
17	Founding of St. Louis	1964	6,000		0	28	28
18	Pocahontas - Rolfe	1964	6,000		0	27	27
19	St. Augustine	1965	6,000		0	21	21
20	Appomattox	1965	6,000		0	21	21
21	Eli Whitney	1965	6,000		0	32	32
22	Indiana Statehood	1966	6,000		0	23	23
23	Great Eastern	1966	6,000		0	24	24
24	Winfield Scott	1966	6,000		0	25	25
25	Nebraska Statehood	1967	6,000		0	21	21
26	Kosciuszko	1967	6,000		0	20	20
27	Mississippi Statehood	1967	6,000		0	19	19

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Proposed Production

#	Description of Metal (all Silver Except as Noted)	Date	# Silver - Planned Mintage	# Gold - Planned Mintage	Silver Medals		
					PCGS	NGC	TOTAL
29	Benjamin Sillman	1968	6,000		0	19	19
30	Illinois Statehood	1968	6,000		0	21	21
31	San Diego Bicentennial	1969	6,000		0	26	26
32	John Wesley Powell	1969	6,000		0	19	19
33	Transcontinental Railroad	1969	6,000		0	22	22
34	Charleston, S.C.	1970	6,000		0	17	17
35	Nathan B. Palmer	1970	6,000		0	17	17
36	Stephen Decatur	1970	6,000		0	18	18
37	Santa Fe Trail	1971	6,000		0	20	20
38	Jimmy Doolittle	1971	6,000		0	22	22
39	First Thanksgiving	1971	6,000		0	22	22
40	Yellowstone Park	1972	6,000		0	17	17
41	Florida Territory	1972	6,000		0	21	21
42	League of Six Nations	1972	6,000		0	17	17
43	Marquette - Joliet	1973	6,000		0	21	21
44	Monroe Doctrine	1973	6,000		0	11	11
45	1773 / Boston Tea Party	1973	6,000		0	19	19
46	New Netherlands	1974	6,000		0	20	20
47	Steel Century	1974	6,000		0	21	21
48	1774 Sam Adams	1974	6,000		0	19	19
49	Erie Canal	1975	6,000		0	16	16
50	Luther Burbank	1975	6,000		0	12	12
51	1775 / George Washington Commander	1975	6,000		0	15	15
52	California Expedition	1976	6,000		0	15	15
53	Colorado Statehood	1976	6,000		0	19	19
54	1776/ Declaration of Independence	1976	6,000		0	11	11
55	Vermont Statehood	1977	6,000		0	11	11
56	Flag Day	1977	6,000		0	12	12
57	1777 / Valley Forge	1977	6,000		0	11	11
58	LaSalle	1978	6,000		0	12	12
59	Edison	1978	6,000		0	15	15
60	1778 / French Alliance / John Paul Jones	1978	6,000		0	10	10
	Total Silver = 62						
	Total Base Set - Silver + Gold = 69						

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Proposed Production

Occasional Pieces:						
Description of Medal	Date	Mintage Planned		PCGS	NGC	TOTAL
Dag Harnmarsksjold	1961	5,000			34	34
John Glen / Mercury Telstar	1962	3,500			29	29
John F. Kennedy	1963	5,300			30	30
Herbert Hoover	1964	5,300			17	17
Adlai Stevenson	1965	5,300			12	12
Dwight Eisenhower	1969	5,300			14	14
American Bicentennial	1976	5,300			8	8
Total Occasional Medals - 7						
Club Medals:						
Description of Medal	Date	Mintage Planned		PCGS	NGC	TOTAL
Ohio-Penn Medal	1964					0
1961 Warrensville Heights Coin Club; 1852 WHCC Counterstamp	1961					0
1962-1963 Warrensville Heights Coin Club	1962-1963					0
1964 Warrensville Heights Coin Club	1964				7	7
1965-1966 Warrensville Heights Coin Club	1965-1966				1	1
1967 Warrensville Heights Coin Club	1967					0
1971 Western Reserve Coin Club 50th Anniv.	1971				1	1
1974 Daytona Beach Coin Club Silver Ann.	1974				5	5
1976 Olde Northfield Historical Society	1976				4	4
Total Club & Museum Medals - 9						

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Actual Production

Medals Produced:

For the silver medals, for the first two years, stated production runs of 5,000 to 6,000 medals; production tapered off with time, with the last medals being produced at a rate of ~3,000 units. The occasional medals were produced at a rate of 2,000 to 4,000 units.

The gold coins were produced in the described numbers from 24 to 50 units depending on the issue. The last issue, #7, may have been fully produced, but not sold, based on the visit from the Treasury suspending his production of gold medals.

Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals – Actual Production

Medals Produced:

About 10 gold coins, issues #8, #9, #10, #11 and #12, were made by his father for himself using available gold planchettes. Perhaps more were made as indicated in further correspondence (2 each Series #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #18, #21, #22 and # 23)

One American Bicentennial medal was produced in gold by his father and given to David – a surprise since he thought his father was done producing the medals at that point.

Robert T. McNamara to David K. Heraldic Art Medals – Special Gold Medals



Robert T. McNamara

Heraldic Art Medals - Closing

David said his father wanted to do the medals so he could choose the topics he wanted; he retained his love for engineering as reflected in 13 of the medals being associated with technology/engineering. The number of medals by topic were:

- Statehood – 13 medals
- Technology/Engineering – 13 medals
- People/Individuals – 9 medals
- Patriots – 25 medals.

Thank You!

Any Questions or Comments?

